AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) ~~The electronic device of claim 1,~~ An electronic device comprising:

a housing comprising a face, a back and an outside edge,

the back being located substantially behind the face,

the outside edge comprising at least two adjoining sections and at least one corner edge wherein two adjoining sections of the outside edge are connected at an angle by each of the at least one corner edge;

at least one touchpad that is continuously disposed along the at least two adjoining sections and the at least one corner edge of the outside edge of the housing in order to form a single touchpad along the at least two non-parallel sections and the at least one corner edge; and

a user input detector, electrically coupled to the at least one touchpad, for detecting user input from the at least one touchpad,

wherein a sliding contact with the at least one touchpad causes an adjustment of an operating variable unrelated to graphical object display.

8-24. (Cancelled).

25. (Currently Amended) A touchpad input device comprising:

a touchpad disposed along at least a portion of at least one outside edge of a housing;

a dimension selection switch able to select one of at least two dimensions;

a user input detector, electrically coupled to the touchpad and the dimension selection switch, for detecting user input from the touchpad and a selected dimension selected by the dimension selection switch and transmitting input signals, wherein the input signals controls movement in the selected dimension in response to the user input; and

a control circuit electrically coupled to the user input detector; wherein the control circuit acts upon the input signals from the user input detector.

26. (Original) The touchpad input device of claim 25, further comprising a display electrically coupled to the control circuit wherein the control circuit transmits output signals to the display.

27. (Previously Presented) The touchpad input device of claim 26, wherein the display is within the housing and the at least one outside edge of the housing is located about at least one edge of the display, and the touchpad is disposed along at least a portion of the at least one edge of the display.

28. (Previously Presented) The touchpad input device of claim 25, wherein the touchpad extends substantially about a perimeter of the housing along the at least one outside edge of the housing.

29. (Canceled).

30. (Original) The touchpad input device of claim 25 wherein the touchpad comprises at least one of a distinctive shape and texture, for providing a tactile feedback to the user.

31. (Original) The touchpad input device of claim 25, further comprising an analog-to-digital converter electrically coupled between the user input detector and the control circuit for converting electrical signals into digital information readable by the control circuit.

32. (Original) The touchpad input device of claim 25, further comprising a threshold comparator electrically coupled between the user input detector and the control circuit.

33. (Original) The touchpad input device of claim 25, further comprising an electric signal amplifier electrically coupled between the user input detector and the control circuit.

34. (Previously Presented) The touchpad input device of claim 25, wherein the touchpad comprises a touchpad strip disposed along at least a portion of at least one outside edge of the housing for detecting user input along the touchpad strip.

35. (Cancelled).

36. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 35,~~ An electronic device comprising:

a housing comprising a face, a back and an outside edge,

the back being located substantially behind the face,

the outside edge comprising at least two adjoining sections and at least one corner edge wherein two adjoining sections of the outside edge are connected at an angle by each of the at least one corner edge;

at least one touchpad that is continuously disposed along the at least two adjoining sections and the at least one corner edge of the outside edge of the housing in order to form a single touchpad along the at least two non-parallel sections and the at least one corner edge; and

a user input detector, electrically coupled to the at least one touchpad, for detecting user input from the at least one touchpad,

wherein the at least one touchpad comprises a plurality of sections and each section of the at least one touchpad controls movement in one of at least two different one-dimensional axes, whereby user input provided along the plurality of sections provides multi-dimensional manipulation of objects displayed on a display screen, wherein the multi-dimensional manipulation of objects comprises three-dimensional

manipulation of objects displayed on the display screen, wherein the three-dimensional manipulation comprises one of zoom and rotate, and wherein the at least two touchpads comprise at least three touchpads, and wherein each of the at least three touchpads correspond to one of x-axis manipulation, y-axis manipulation and one of zoom and rotate.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein one of the at least two dimensions is one of zoom and rotate.

38-39. (Cancelled)